# 1953

# YEARBOOK

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1953

# YEARBOOK

of

# THE PENNSYLVANIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

*Oldest Horticultural Society in America*

With Reports for
1952

Edited by
MRS. GEORGE REATH

THE PENNSYLVANIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
389 Suburban Station Building
1617 Pennsylvania Boulevard, Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania

## OBJECTIVES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

To stimulate and promote an interest in horticulture in its widest sense: the growing of plants—flowers, shrubs, trees, vegetables and fruits (both large and small). To that end the Society maintains central offices at 389 Suburban Station Building in Philadelphia, with an excellent library and a trained horticulturist. All facilities are available to members throughout the year. The Society takes a large and important part in The Philadelphia Flower Show, and holds an annual Chrysanthemum Show at Swarthmore in conjunction with the Arthur Hoyt Scott Foundation.

Timely exhibitions are held in the rooms of the Society during the fall, winter and spring months. Of these, the December Christmas decorations and the April Narcissus shows are outstanding.

During the winter lectures are given by leading authorities on different horticultural subjects.

At suitable times in the spring and fall selected private gardens are opened for visits by members of the Society. These garden days are very popular and attract large numbers.

The Society is also interested in civic improvement and beautification, and is at present working on an Azalea Garden in Fairmount Park.

Membership dues include a subscription to POPULAR GARDENING, a leading garden magazine, as well as a free ticket to the Philadelphia and Swarthmore Flower Shows and use of the other facilities—lectures, use of the library, garden consultations and garden visits.

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, which is the oldest horticultural society in the United States, was founded in 1827 and celebrated its 125th Anniversary in 1952.

The present membership is over 5400 and an invitation to join the Society is extended to anyone who may be interested.

Annual Dues, $5.00

*Toward the Endowment*
Life Membership Fee, $75.00
(May be paid in installments)

Sustaining Member, $1,000.00

Benefactor, $5,000.00

Patron, $10,000.00

*Make Checks Payable to*

**THE PENNSYLVANIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

**389 Suburban Station Building**

**1617 Pennsylvania Boulevard, Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania**

**(Telephone: RIttenhouse 6-8352 - RIttenhouse 6-7185)**

## OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

**President**

JOHN B. CARSON, M.D.

**Vice-Presidents**

MRS. ARTHUR HOYT SCOTT

MRS. G. RUHLAND REBMANN, Jr.

**Secretary**

MRS. E. PAGE ALLINSON

**Treasurer**

MR. GEORGE R. CLARK

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

**Term Ending December 31, 1953**

MR. W. ATLEE BURPEE, Jr.
MRS. JOHN B. CARSON
MR. GEORGE R. CLARK
MR. HAROLD GRAHAM
MRS. J. NORMAN HENRY
MRS. WILLIAM E. PHELPS
MRS. CHARLES PLATT
MRS. ALAN H. REED
MR. J. FRANKLIN STYER
MRS. HARRY WOOD

**Term Ending December 31, 1954**

MRS. E. PAGE ALLINSON
DR. JOHN B. CARSON
DR. JOHN M. FOGG, Jr.
MR. FAIRMAN R. FURNESS
MRS. SIDNEY KEITH
MR. WILLIAM CLARKE MASON
MR. FREDERICK W. G. PECK
MRS. WALTER REBMANN
MISS ESTELLE L. SHARP
MR. WILLIAM H. WEBER

**Term Ending December 31, 1955**

MR. CHARLES BECKER, Jr.
MR. ALFRED M. CAMPBELL
MRS. F. WOODSON HANCOCK
MR. J. LIDDON PENNOCK, Jr.
MRS. GEORGE REATH
MRS. G. RUHLAND REBMANN, Jr.
MRS. ARTHUR HOYT SCOTT
MRS. W. BEAUMONT WHITNEY, II
MR. GRAHAME WOOD, Jr.
MRS. RICHARD D. WOOD, Jr.

## OFFICE STAFF

MRS. BROOKS SEMPLE, Executive Secretary
MRS. CLAY T. BARNES, Membership Secretary
MISS MARY P. PHILLIPS, Horticultural Consultant
MISS MARY S. GREEN, Librarian

## COMMITTEES FOR 1953

The President, ex-officio, is a member of all Committees.

### Executive Committee

MRS. E. PAGE ALLINSON, *Chairman*

MRS. JOHN B. CARSON
MR. WILLIAM CLARKE MASON
M. J. LIDDON PENNOCK, Jr.
MRS. G. RUHLAND REBMANN, Jr.
MRS. W. BEAUMONT WHITNEY, II
MRS. RICHARD D. WOOD, Jr.

### Finance Committee

MR. WILLIAM CLARKE MASON, *Chairman*
MR. GEORGE R. CLARK

### Library Committee

MISS ESTELLE L. SHARP, *Chairman*

MISS DARTHELA CLARK
MRS. WEBSTER BARNES
MRS. GEORGE ORR

### Lecture Committee

DR. JOHN M. FOGG, Jr., *Chairman*

MRS. ALBERT C. BARNES
DR. WENDELL H. CAMP
MRS. LYNWOOD R. HOLMES
MRS. ALAN H. REED

### Horticultural Committee

MRS. CHARLES PLATT, *Chairman*

MRS. EDWARD M. CHESTON
MRS. J. FOLSOM PAUL
MISS MARY B. READ
MRS. FREDERICK J. STOKES, Jr.

### Exhibition Committee

MR. WILLIAM H. WEBER, *Chairman*
MR. HARRY WOOD, *Cochairman*

MRS. E. PAGE ALLINSON
MR. CHARLES BECKER, Jr.
MRS. CHARLES BECKER, Jr.
MISS ELEANOR W. DAVID
MR. WILLIAM G. ELLIS
MRS. T. BROMLEY FLOOD
MR. HAROLD GRAHAM
DR. ETHEL R. HANKELE
MR. ERIC H. JENKINS
MR. ALEXANDER MacLEOD
MR. WAYNE W. RADCLIFFE
MRS. ARTHUR HOYT SCOTT

MR. WALTER L. HEWES, *Chairman of Staging*

### Display in Rooms Committee

MRS. RICHARD D. WOOD, Jr., *Chairman*

MRS. WILLIAM W. BATTLES
MRS. GAMBLE LATROBE
MRS. GEORGE REATH
MRS. JOSEPH B. TOWNSEND, Jr.

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MR. WILLIAM R. BRECK
MRS. GEORGE EDMONDS
MRS. F. WOODSON HANCOCK
MR. HENRY D. MIRICK
MR. FREDERICK W. G. PECK
MRS. WILLIAM E. PHELPS
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MRS. G. RUHLAND REBMANN, Jr., *Chairman*

MRS. H. CARL ALBRECHT
MRS. JAMES CAMERON BLELOCH
MRS. WILLIAM C. BYERS
MRS. HARRY W. MAGEE
MRS. HENRY N. MARSH
MRS. KARL RUGART
MRS. HARRY C. TILY, II

Chairman, Editorial Committee

MRS. GEORGE REATH

125th Anniversary Committee

MR. RICHARD D. WOOD, Jr., *Chairman*

MRS. WINTHROP H. BATTLES
MR. JOHN N. BLYE, Jr.
MRS. GEORGE R. CLARK
DR. JOHN M. FOGG, Jr.
MR. HAROLD GRAHAM
MR. FREDERICK W. G. PECK
MR. J. LIDDON PENNOCK, Jr.
MRS. CHARLES PLATT
MRS. ALAN H. REED
MRS. ARTHUR HOYT SCOTT
DR. HENRY T. SKINNER

## OFFICE RECORDS — 1952

There were 3,086 visitors to the Rooms, including 1,326 who came to special exhibits, 983 who came to the Library, and 473 who came to lectures. Thirty-five meetings were held in the Board Room by committees of the Society and the Executive Council; and thirty-seven meetings were held by committees of other horticultural groups.

The membership record for the year is as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Membership as of January 1, 1952 ..... | 5,241 |
| Losses, including 58 deaths ..... | 592 |
| | 4,649 |
| New members added during the year ..... | 783 |
| Membership as of December 31, 1952 ..... | 5,432 |

MISS FANNIE A. ROOT

## MISS FANNIE A. ROOT

### Executive Secretary

### 1928 - 1953

*Remarks made by Mrs. E. Page Allinson on the Presentation of a gift to Miss Root at the 125th Anniversary Dinner on Nov. 24, 1952.*

Each of the men, who has played with the Orchestra for twenty-five years, is given a watch by the Philadelphia Orchestra Association. These men have been called the "Watchmen". You, too, Miss Root, the very "root and stock" of our Society, deserve a watch; for, in more senses than one you have been the watchman of the Society. You have watched over its finances and its staff, its offices and its activities, its members and its friends, and you have given untold hours beyond the call of duty.

A letter from Mr. James Boyd, President of the Society in 1928 when you came, states: "We should like to find a suitable woman who has had secretarial and stenographic experience. She should be a lady of education, culture and refinement. She must have a pleasant personality. She should be not less than thirty-five years of age and not over fifty. She must attend to receipts of income, collection of dues, disbursement of funds, printing of reports, etc., etc. She will be expected to attend the meetings of the Council and committees, make notes of all transactions and prepare minutes for the record. She will have charge of all correspondence and will keep the accounts of the Treasurer as well as the Secretary."!

All this, Miss Root, you have been and you have done—and much more. And so now, to you, the "Watchman" of our Society, we present this watch as a small token of our affection, our admiration, and our gratitude.

## ANNUAL MEETING

The 126th annual meeting, of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, was held in the Society Rooms on the afternoon of November nineteenth, 1952.

Dr. John B. Carson, President of the Society, opened the meeting by welcoming the forty-seven members who were present. The officers of the Society and the Committee Chairmen then read their annual reports. And these reports are printed in the following pages.

After the business meeting was over, Mr. Richard K. Whipple showed some of his beautiful kodachrome slides. Mr. Whipple has been taking pictures, for some time, of the gardens which the Society's members so kindly open for Garden Visits. It was a special pleasure, on this November day, to revisit those lovely gardens.

## THE COUNCIL

The Council regrets to announce the resignations of the following gentlemen, all of whom have served the Society in many ways:

Mr. John C. Wister,
Member of the Council, 1920-1952;
Secretary of the Society, 1928-1952

Mr. Alexander MacLeod,
Member of the Council, 1932-1952.

Mr. Thowas W. Sears,
Member of the Council, 1933-1952.

Mr. William L. McLean, Jr.
Member of the Council, 1944-1952

The Society is most fortunate in having as new members of the Council:

Mrs. Sidney Keith
Mr. Frederick W. G. Peck
Mrs. George Reath
Mrs. Walter Rebmann
Mr. J. Franklin Styer
Mr. Grahame Wood, Jr.
Mrs. Harry Wood

# REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

It is my pleasant duty, as president, to welcome the new members and to make this annual report to the Society.

The year 1952 assumes importance because it is the 125th year of continuous existence of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. This year was marked by greatly increased interest and activity on the part of the officers, committees and office staff.

Mr. George R. Clark was first elected Assistant Treasurer, and then Treasurer. The Society is greatly indebted to him for the care and attention which he is giving to that office.

Mrs. E. Page Allinson, as Chairman of the Executive Committee, had a difficult task in effecting necessary changes and replacements in the office staff. We wish to thank her for the great amount of time and thought which she had given to this.

You will hear in detail from the Chairmen of our Standing Committees. Each one of these Committees is doing good work. They have performed their duties enthusiastically and well. Let me thank them all for the Society. Without their help, little could have been accomplished.

In addition to the regular committees, Mr. Richard D. Wood, Jr., will report for the 125th Anniversary Committee. This committee is a very active one. Each member has worked to make the anniversary project a success. Mr. Wood, as chairman, deserves great credit and also the thanks of the Society for his supervising and guiding hand. Mrs. Winthrop H. Battles is to be thanked for her work in publicity. Dr. Henry T. Skinner, Mrs. Charles Platt and the other members of the committee have all given their time and special knowledge to this project.

The Azalea Garden was designed by Mr. Frederick W. G. Peck, and the plans are available for examination here in the Rooms. During the coming winter months, if weather permits, we hope to make progress with the work so that the garden may be finished by next spring.

This Society has a wonderful membership. Over twenty percent contributed to the Azalea Garden. With a total membership of nearly 5500, contributions were received from over 1300. Local garden clubs and other organizations have also contributed. Contributions have even come from England and Canada. Funds are now sufficient to complete the garden, but we are trying to have a reserve for such replacements and changes as may become necessary or desirable. Perhaps our members will think of the Society at Christmas time, and send in a gift for this purpose.

All gifts or donations are deductible from Federal Income Tax. Notice was received from the Bureau of Internal Revenue to this effect, and we wish to thank Mr. William Clarke Mason for his good advice regarding this.

Next week, on November 24th, the 125th Anniversary Dinner will be held in the Franklin Institute. Mrs. Emile Geyelin and Mrs. John Clark are in charge, and we are sure that all who come will find it a happy occasion. The day is the exact anniversary date of the founding of the Society in the Franklin Institute on November 24th, 1827.

These Rooms are freely used by the Society for its council meetings, by its different committees and by the members who come to the Library or for horticultural and garden advice. Interest in the many activities of the Society has been more and more manifest this year. These Rooms are also used by many other organizations for their meetings or committee work. During the past year, the following have held meetings here:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Garden Club Federation of Pa. and its committees — | 12 | meetings. |
| Conservation Council of Pa. | 6 | " |
| Conservation Committee, Garden Club of America | 7 | " |
| Penns Woods | 1 | " |
| Bowman's Hill Committee | 3 | " |
| Bartram Garden Association | 2 | " |
| Fairmount Park Committee, Garden Club of America | 1 | " |
| School of Horticulture | 2 | " |
| Philadelphia Flower Show, Inc. | 5 | " |

This makes a total of 39 meetings.

There are other activities which are important. The Spring Luncheon was a great success. Mrs. J. Norman Henry was in charge, and Mr. Frederick W. G. Peck showed slides of gardens with accompanying comment.

The magazine POPULAR GARDENING has been well received and I hope you are familiar with the space given to this Society and its notices.

The lectures, exhibitions and flower shows held in the Rooms have been excellent. Be sure to come to them this winter and next spring. Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr., Mrs. Richard D. Wood, Jr., and Mrs. Albert C. Barnes deserve the sincere thanks of the Society.

Mrs. John B. Carson has each year worked out a series of garden visits that are becoming more and more popular. On one of the days last spring, nearly 800 members came to the gardens.

Two of the most popular regular activities are the November Chrysanthemum Show at Swarthmore and the wonderful Philadelphia Flower Show in March. These shows could not be what they are without the hard work and cooperation of our members. Mr. William H. Weber, Mr. Harry Wood and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Becker are always among the hardest workers at Swarthmore, while Mrs. W. Beaumont Whitney, Mrs. Walter Rebmann and their committees are responsible for a great deal of the success of the Philadelphia Flower Show.

Mrs. Charles Platt and her committee are continuing their progress with the Civic Improvement project at League Island.

Mrs. G. Ruhland Rebmann, Jr., is working on a campaign for more members this coming year. I want to ask each and every member of the Society to get some new members. We have a great deal to offer to all who are interested in gardening and horticultural pursuits. With a greatly increased membership, we will be able to extend our interests and increase our activities. Please send in now the names of all your friends who you think would care to join the Society.

When the Azalea Garden in Fairmount Park is completed, the Society should undertake other activities so that it may be useful and helpful in bringing something of the horticultural world into the lives of many others. Suggestions are desired.

One of the needs of the Society is a home of its own. Some day this must be started. It has been too long a time since the Society lost its old home—Horticultural Hall.

I now wish to say a few words of appreciation about Miss Fannie Root who will retire at the end of this year. Miss Root entered the service of the Society twenty-five years ago and has served faithfully and well all of that time. It might be said that, for many years, Miss Root almost *was* the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. She often had to perform the duties of president, secretary and treasurer, and did them with equal facility. Her devotion, loyalty and faithfulness to the Society have endeared her to all of us. The Society was fortunate indeed in having Miss Fannie Root in the office as Executive Secretary so long a time. We all wish her good health, good luck and happiness in the retirement which she deserves so well.

Finally, for the Society, I want to thank the officers, the Council, the different committees and the office staff for their loyal support which has made this year such a successful one.

JOHN B. CARSON,
*President.*

# REPORT OF THE TREASURER

# FOR 1951 - 1952

## STATEMENT OF CONDITION

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Cash* | | |
| Bank Account | $23,028.68 | |
| Savings Account | 6,749.98 | |
| | | $29,778.66 |
| *Investments* | | |
| Life Membership | $59,563.99 | |
| General | 35,156.06 | |
| Library | 74.00 | |
| Pension | 11,470.00 | |
| | | 106,264.05 |
| *Schaffer Trust* | | 282,692.97 |
| | | $388,957.02 |

## INCOME AND EXPENSES

| | 1952 | 1951 |
|---|---|---|
| *Receipts* | $39,928.98 | $36,724.22 |
| Expenses | 33,773.42 | 31,415.61 |
| | $6,155.56 | $5,308.61 |
| Balance before extraordinary expenses and depreciation, and not including: | | |
| Life Membership Dues | $2,610.00 | $2,360.00 |
| Special Contributions | 529.95 | 1,464.25 |
| *Sources of Income* | | |
| Schaffer Trust | $10,866.50 | $9,347.92 |
| Investments | 5,116.24 | 4,981.30 |
| Annual Dues | 23,510.00 | 22,395.00 |
| Garden Visits | 436.24 | |
| | $39,928.98 | $36,724.22 |

## EXPENDITURES BY COMMITTEES

| | 1952 | | 1951 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Expended | Budget | Expended |
| Executive | $16,303.83 | $16,650.00 | $15,792.33 |
| Lecture | 724.95 | 850.00 | 762.59 |
| Exhibition | 2,684.24 | 3,250.00 | 2,546.14 |
| Library | 4,565.83 | 4,835.00 | 4,166.51 |
| Horticultural | 213.00 | 325.00 | 598.54 |
| Editorial | 7,736.76 | 7,520.00 | 6,775.93 |
| Pension | 1,480.00 | 1,500.00 | 1,480.00 |
| Membership | 1,203.33 | 1,150.00 | 1,155.08 |
| 125th Anniversary | 707.95 | ..... | ..... |
| *Miscellaneous | 377.76 | 392.00 | 478.89 |
| TOTALS | $35,997.65 | $36,472.00 | $33,756.01 |
| *Less* | | | |
| New Equipment | $ 524.32 | | $ 501.55 |
| New Books | 219.91 | | 233.85 |
| Pension | 1,480.00 | | 1,480.00 |
| Transfer to Library Fund | ..... | | 125.00 |
| | $2,024.23 | | $2,340.40 |
| *Net Ordinary Expenses* | | | |
| For All Committees | $33,773.42 | | $31,415.61 |

* Includes: Annual Meeting
Spring Luncheon
Social Security Tax

GEORGE R. CLARK,
*Treasurer.*

November 19, 1952.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

During the year your Executive Committee has dealt with various matters of administration, notably increases in salaries, approval of vacation schedules, hours when the Rooms will be open, duties of the staff, examination and approval of the budget, etc., etc.

But for the year 1952, the most important job has been to find a successor to Miss Fannie Root, who resigned after twenty-five years of service, her resignation to take effect January 1st, 1953. With her withdrawal from the office, it was obvious that we should lose the very backbone of the organization—a person who knew all of the details, both of the finances and of the daily routine of the office, as well as the larger aspects of the Society. It had seemed a very difficult task to find someone who could even begin to take her place. We believe that, after consideration of other candidates also, we have been both fortunate and right in securing the services of Mrs. Brooks Semple, who was already somewhat familiar with the work of the Society, and who is now here working with Miss Root in preparation for taking over on January 1st.

Mrs. Marion Code, the Librarian, resigned as of August 1st, last. Here again, it was difficult to find a successor, and many candidates were interviewed, none of whom seemed to fit, until almost at the eleventh hour we found Miss Mary Green, who is already fitting well into the work of Librarian, of Assistant to Miss Phillips the Horticulturist, and of general office secretarial help. Miss Green is a graduate of the School of Horticulture at Ambler, and has also had library experience.

I should like to thank the members of the Executive Committee for their faithful attendance at meetings and, their interest in the affairs of the Society—especially Mrs. John B. Carson, who is invaluable for her experience and her understanding, and Mrs. Ruhland Rebmann, who has acted as Secretary. And I am grateful to Miss Root and the other members of the Staff for their willing cooperation.

MARY M-P. ALLINSON, *Chairman*
(MRS. E. PAGE ALLINSON)

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee is glad to report that there has been a net gain of 194 members during the past year. As of today, membership in the Society is 5431.

Activities of the Committee during the year included the following:

Sending to all members folders suggesting membership as Christmas gifts.

Concentrated campaign in February and April during which 7000 invitations were mailed to selected lists.

A letter from the President to members, asking for names of prospective members.

Distribution of invitations at all Society flower shows, at the Orchid Show at Gimbels, and at Garden Visits.

By far the most effective invitations to membership are given by you who are already members of the Society. Ninety percent of the people whom you suggested accepted our invitation. The percentage of returns from other lists runs from two to six percent. You can readily see how much your co-operation means. The Committee is deeply grateful for it.

This is a live organization and is growing livelier all the time under Dr. Carson's stimulating leadership. With pride we can suggest to our friends that they join us. Won't you send us names of people who would enjoy the activities of the Society? Above all, help us tell Philadelphia and the surrounding area of the rich returns the Society gives for a small membership fee.

MARY B. REBMANN, *Chairman.*
(Mrs. G. Ruhland Rebmann, Jr.)

## GARDEN VISITS COMMITTEE

I would like to report for my committee that the Society's Garden Visits were most successful this past year. It has been a great pleasure to work on a committee that has had the unfailing cooperation of all the owners of the gardens and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's appreciative members.

We had three Garden Day Visits in the spring:

Five gardens in the Wilmington area on May 3rd—Mr. and Mrs. Donald P. Ross, Mr. and Mrs. J. Simpson Dean, Mr. and Mrs. Lammot DuPont Copeland, Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield, and Mrs. Elwyn Evans.

Five gardens in the Chestnut Hill area on May 10th—Mr. and Mrs. G. Walter Ketcham, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miller Watts, Jr., Mrs. Widener Dixon, Mr. and Mrs. Schofield Andrews, and Mr. and Mrs. George D. Widener.

Seven small gardens in the Main Line area on May 17th—Mr. and Mrs. William H. Walker, Mrs. Frank Graham Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Winthrop Sargent, Mr. and Mrs. Granville Dodge Montgomery, Mrs. John H. Locke, Mr. and Mrs. G. Ruhland Rebmann, and Mr. and Mrs. Morris D. Van Patten.

On October 18th we visited three gardens featuring chrysanthemums —Mr. and Mrs. E. Fenimore Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas W. Sears, and Mr. and Mrs. William R. Breck.

The total number of visitors was 2361, of which 1032 were guests and 1334 members. This is an increase of nearly 600 visitors over last year.

FRANCES T. CARSON, *Chairman.*
(Mrs. John B. Carson)

ROADSIDE STAND EXHIBIT, PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW, 1952

# PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE

For the first time, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society was invited to participate in planning the center aisle of the 1952 Philadelphia Flower Show. Heretofore our efforts had been confined to a section devoted to small gardens, room displays and flower arrangements.

In co-operation with the Philadelphia Flower Show, Inc., Mrs. Walter Rebmann and her committee planned a Country Life Scene in the center aisle, terminating in a lane leading up to an old barn. Eight garden clubs exhibited Country Flower Gardens on either side of the aisle, and two new clubs from beyond the limits of metropolitan Philadelphia exhibited Roadside Stands which won prizes and created much interest and comment.

In addition to this new enterprise, we had two classes of Interior Room Settings, three classes of Dining Room Tables, and three classes daily of Flower Arrangements in niches. Also there were educational displays such as a Demonstration of good and poor use of Flower and Plant Material in Arrangements, a Sweet Scented Garden exhibited by the Philadelphia Unit of the Herb Society, Succession of Narcissus by the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania, and Four Seasons in a Rose Garden by the Ambler School of Horticulture.

It is estimated that three hundred volunteers joined in making the 1952 Show one of the most successful in the history of the Philadelphia Flower Show. The large attendance and great interest developed are an evidence of the excellent publicity job done by Mrs. Charles Becker, Jr. The Flower Show, Inc., were so pleased with the results that they have asked Mrs. Rebmann and her Schedule Committee to plan and execute the entire center aisle for the forthcoming show the week of March 16th, 1953, including all the financial transactions.

Full credit should go to Mrs. Rebmann and her committee for undertaking the execution of this important project, the plan for which has been drawn up by Mr. Frederick W. G. Peck, landscape architect,

The theme of the show this year will commemorate the Society's 125th Anniversary. The center aisle will feature azaleas and terminate with an old Philadelphia scene circa 1827. The garden clubs will exhibit terrace and woodland gardens, each with azaleas. An Old City Garden will be exhibited by the School of Horticulture and an Apothecary Shop and Herb Garden by the Philadelphia Unit of the Herb Society. The usual flower arrangements will also be displayed daily with several new attractive features.

We are looking forward to an outstandingly good show and hope to have you all with us.

LOUISA WHITNEY, *Chairman.*
(MRS. W. BEAUMONT WHITNEY, II)

## HORTICULTURAL COMMITTEE

The Horticultural Committee has continued its interest in the Philadelphia Housing Authority's League Island Homes, holding a small flower show in the auditorium there in September. The classes were for the results of seeds distributed in the Spring, and in spite of adverse growing conditions the exhibits were excellent and the interest gratifying. Small cash prizes were awarded, and sprays of ivy given to the tenants for winter growth indoors. Thanks to a wonderful donation to the Committee from the Germantown Garden Club, two fine trees are being planted there this Autumn—an oak and a sycamore. This gift was much appreciated.

The Daffodil Project is being repeated this year with two classes, one for four similar varieties to be shown in competition at the Spring Daffodil Show, and the other for the Project varieties that were shown last year to demonstrate their subsequent care.

One of the chief concerns of the Committee has been the contacting of Arboretums and Nurseries, asking for donations of plant material for the Azalea Garden in Fairmount Park. The response has been extremely generous and it is good to feel that this project has met with such prompt and enthusiastic co-operation.

DOROTHY FALCON PLATT, *Chairman.*
(MRS. CHARLES PLATT)

## EXHIBITION COMMITTEE

The annual Chrysanthemum Show for 1952 was held in the Field House at Swarthmore College, November 7-8-9. Over 6,000 people visited the show in those three days, which was quite a sharp increase in attendance over 1951.

In most areas the growing weather was quite favorable for outside Chrysanthemums, with the result that the amateur classes bulged with entries of excellent material. The large exhibits from the private estates were of top quality and added greatly to the interest of the show.

This year marked the beginning of an entirely new class for the amateur grower. Each interested person received three rooted Chrysanthemum cuttings in April, 1952, and was urged to grow them and bring their results to the show in November. Out of the original 47 entrants, over 20 people brought their plants to the show. This class created quite an interest.

A very colorful display of berried and fruited branches was arranged in the center of the Field House.

It seems that the desire of the amateurs and the Garden Clubs to compete for prizes at this show is increasing. We sincerely hope that this keen interest continues until we will be able to announce that this is one of the largest Chrysanthemum Shows in the country.

WILLIAM H. WEBER,
*Chairman.*

## LECTURE COMMITTEE

Profiting by the favorable reaction to the experiment which it initiated last year, the Lecture Committee has decided to duplicate this pattern for the current season. This means that there will be four Wednesday lectures in January and February, two of them in the afternoon and two in the evening, all of them being held in the Rooms of the Society In addition, there will be a subscription course composed of three lectures during the month of February.

The following arrangements have been made:

WEDNESDAY SERIES:

January 14, 3 P. M.—"Some Impressions of English Gardens"
T. H. Everett, Horticulturist, New York Botanical Garden.

January 28, 8 P. M.—"Horticulture Old and New in Latin America"
Dr. Paul B. Sears, Department of Conservation, Yale University.

February 11, 3 P. M.—"Night, Day, and Plant Growth"
Dr. Harry A. Borthwick, Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Md.

February 25, 8 P. M.—"Climbing Sports of Hybrid Tea Roses"
Dr. James A. Gamble, Tall Timbers, Md.

SUBSCRIPTION COURSE:

In planning the Subscription Course it has been the intention of the Committee to build upon the interest created last year in the series entitled "Planning the Home Grounds". This year's series will be entitled "Developing the Home Site", and will be given by a well qualified landscape architect on three Monday evenings in February: the 2nd, 9th and 16th. The series will consist of three illustrated discussions for the owner of small residential properties in proper land usage, design, construction, and planning.

JOHN M. FOGG, JR.
*Chairman.*

## LIBRARY COMMITTEE

During the year, the Library has had 984 visitors and a circulation of about 1000 books. We have added 73 books to our shelves, perhaps the most important of which is the new Royal Horticultural Society's "Dictionary of Gardening", in four volumes. This dictionary, which took nearly twelve years for completion, is an excellent addition to our reference shelves, and we urge members to use it at the first opportunity. There were eleven books presented to the Society by members, some being given in memory of our former President, Mr. Stout.

Last winter a special bookcase was constructed for our oversize books. These are now placed flat on shelves which are wide enough for the purpose, and it is a satisfaction to know that these valuable volumes are properly housed.

This year the Society has arranged to order garden books for members through the National Council Books, Inc., thereby obtaining a 10% commission for our own budget for new books. When you wish to buy, or send a garden book to a friend, remember to order through the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and it will be sent and billed direct to you. (Our librarian will help you with suggestions.)

We are happy to have Miss Mary Green in charge of the Library. Miss Green, a Garden Consultant, is a graduate of Radfliffe College and of the School of Horticulture at Ambler. She is well equipped to help you find the right books for your gardening needs.

Exhibited at the Annual Meeting were some of the books listed in an early Accession Book. Among these were botanical works with lovely illustrations, printed for the most part in England; many books about fruit, which was of especial importance 125 years ago; and a number of bound periodicals, showing the demand for horticultural information at that time.

ESTELLE L. SHARP,
*Chairman.*

## LIBRARY ACCESSIONS—1951-52

ALLEN, ARTHUR H., *Stalking Birds with Color Camera,* 1951.
ALLEN, ELSA G., *History of American Ornitholoy before Audubon,* 1951.
ANDERSON, A. W., *The Coming of the Flowers.*
ANDERSON, EDGAR, *Plants, Man and Life,* 1952.
ANDREWS, ROY CHAPMAN, *Nature's Ways,* 1951.
ARKELL, REGINALD, *Green Fingers,* 1952.
ASHBERRY, ANNE, *Miniature Gardens,* 1951.
ATKINS, FREDERICK C., *Mushroom Growing Today,* 1950.
BALFOUR, E. B., *The Living Soil,* 1948.
BIRDSEY, M. R., *The Cultivated Aroids,* 1951.
BIRDSEYE, CLARENCE, *Growing Woodland Plants,* 1951.
BLISS, ELAM, *Our Neighborhood,* 1831.
BUSH-BROWN, JAMES AND LOUISE, *America's Garden Book,* 1951.
CHITTENDEN, F. J., ed., *Royal Horticultural Society Dictionary of Gardening,* 1951.
CLARK, WILLIAM J., *Gardening the Small Place,* 1952.
CONDIT, IRA J., *The Fig,* 1947.
CORNISH, GEOFFREY S., *Your Lawn,* 1951.
CORRELL, DONOVAN S., *Native Orchids of North America,* 1950.
COWAN, JOHN M., *The Rhododendron Leaf,* 1950.
DALLIMORE, W., *Holly, Yew and Box,* 1918.
DE GRAAF, JAN, *The New Book of Lilies,* 1951.
PENNSYLVANIA STATE DIV. OF FOREST RESEACH,
*Common Trees of Pennsylvania,* 1952.
EVERETT, T. H., *Gardening Handbook,* 1951.
FISCHER AND HARSHBERGER, *The Flower Family Album,* 1941.

FORT, MARIE J., *Flower Arrangement for All Occasions.*
FREE, MONTAGUE, *All About African Violets*, 1951.
GOULD & SYNGE, ed., *Royal Horticultural Soc. Rhododendron Year Book*, 1951-52.
GOULD & SYNGE, ed., *Royal Horticultural Society Rhododendron Handbook*, 1952.
GREELEY, WILLIAM B., *Forests and Men*, 1951.
HAWORTH-BOOTH, MICHAEL, *The Hydrangeas*, 1950.
HERSEY, JEAN, *Garden in Your Window*, 1949.
HULL, HELEN S., *Wild Flowers for Your Garden*, 1952.
ISHIMOTO, TATSUO, *The Art of Driftwood and Dried Arrangements*, 1951.
JOHNSON, A. T., *Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Magnolias, Camellias, and Ornamental Cherries*, 1948.
KIERAN, JOHN, *An Introduction to Wild Flowers*, 1952.
KRUTCH, JOSEPH WOOD, *Great American Nature Writing*, 1950.
KUMMER, ANNA P., *Weed Seedlings*, 1951.
LAMSON, MARY DEPUTY, *Garden Housekeeping*, 1951.
LANE PUBLICATION CO., *The Portable Garden*, 1952.
LEMMON, ROBERT S., *The Best Loved Trees of America*, 1952.
LODEMAN, E. G., *The Spraying of Plants*, 1910.
LOGAN AND COSPER, *Orchids Are Easy to Grow*, 1949.
MANNING, LAURENCE, *The How and Why of Better Gardening*, 1951.
McDOUGALL AND SPERRY, *Plants of Big Bend National Park*, 1952.
MILLAR AND TURK, *Fundamentals of Soil Science*, 1951.
MILORADOVICH, MILO, *Home Garden Book of Herbs and Spices*, 1952.
MOLDENKE, HAROLD AND ALMA, *Plants of the Bible*, 1952.
MUNSELL, A. H., *A Color Notation*, 1948.
ORGANIC GARDENING LIBRARY, *Manual of Organic Materials*, 1947.
PALMER, F. LAURENCE, *Fieldbook of Natural History*, 1949.
PEATTIE, DONALD AND NOEL, *A Cup of Sky*, 1950.
PERTCHIK, BERNARD AND HARRIET, *Flowering Trees of the Caribbean*, 1951.
PFEIFFER, EHRENFRIED, *The Earth's Face and Human Destiny*, 1947.
PIRONE, P. P., *Modern Gardening*, 1952.
PRESTON, F. G., *The Greenhouse*, 1951.
REUSCH AND NOBLE, *Corsage Craft*, 1951.
RICE AND COMPTON, *Wild Flowers of the Cape of Good Hope*, 1950.
SCHNEIDER, HERMAN AND NINA, *Plants in the City*, 1951.
SCOTTISH GARDENS COMMITTEE, *Visit Scotland's Gardens*, 1952.
SITWELL, SIR GEORGE, *On the Making of Gardens*, 1951.
SLOSSON, ELVENIA, ed., *Pioneer American Gardening*, 1951.
STEVENS, THEO. A., ed., *My Garden Bedside Book*, 1951.
SYNGE, P. M., ed., Royal Horticultural Society Fruit Year Book, 1951-52.
TROVILLION, HAL W., ed., *Flowers from Old Gardens*, 1951.
VAN RENSSELAAR, MAUNSELL, *Trees of Santa Barbara*, 1948.
WALTON, ELIJAH, *Flowers from the Upper Alps*, 1869.
WELLS, A. LAURENCE, *Garden Ponds, Fish and Fountains*, 1949.
WESTCOTT, CYNTHIA, *Anyone Can Grow Roses*, 1952.
WHITSITT, EDNA, *Roses and Home Flower Arrangement*, 1951.
WOOD, W. P., *A Fuchsia Survey.*
WYMAN, DONALD, *Trees for American Gardens*, 1951.

# DISPLAYS IN ROOMS COMMITTEE

Last December we had a very successful and well attended Christmas Greens Show under the capable chairmanship of Mrs. George Clark. There were especially favorable comments on the wreaths and dining table decorations. I am sure that visitors went away with many novel ideas for their own holiday festivities. After the show some of these exhibits were sent to the Valley Forge Hospital to brighten their wards.

In January, the Southeastern Chapter of the American Orchid Society staged a most interesting exhibit of orchids suitable for amateurs and beginners.

During February, members of the Society were invited to show their own paintings on horticultural subjects. There were nineteen pictures of high caliber. All visitors were asked to vote for the Prize Winners. A lovely pastel of a pale blue aster, done by Mr. Henry Lindenmayr, won first prize almost unanimously.

Dr. and Mrs. Lehman Nyce displayed camellias from their magnificent collection in February. A small reception, in their honor, was given by Mr. and Mrs. Fitz Eugene Newbold for those particularly interested in the growing of camellias. Dr. and Mrs. Nyce received a Certificate of Merit for their work in this field.

Our Annual Narcissus Show in April, under the Chairmanship of Mrs. James Robbins, was very, very fine with 245 amateur exhibits! Plus splendid displays of field grown daffodils from the Scott Arboretum staged by Mr. Harry Wood, and individual specimens grown and staged by Mr. Charles Mueller of New Hope. Alas, the attendance was poor. It is a distressing situation to have one of the finest Narcissus Shows in the country not seen by many people. So this coming spring we plan to make radical changes, in the hopes of putting it before more people. The Horticultural Committee's project for a Special Class of named bulbs, purchased through the Society, demonstrated what different results can be had from the same batch of bulbs. It proved educational for all who participated in the Project, as well as for those who saw the really astonishing results. The flowers from these same bulbs will again be shown this spring; and again, I imagine, the results will be even more astonishing.

This fall, the Displays in the Rooms started off on a very high plane in October, with an outstanding exhibit of Fall Fruiting Trees and Shrubs from the Arboretum of the Barnes Foundation. Each of the many fine specimens was clearly tagged. From watching the visitors, who carefully examined the individual specimens and jotted down information, I am sure this was an unusually valuable display for our members. We are indebted to Mrs. Barnes for her work and thought in staging this excellent show.

I hope that you here will take time to examine this display of old and rare books from your Library. It has been arranged by Miss Sharp

in connection with the 125th Anniversary celebration of your Society. I think the exhibit before you speaks for itself.

December 8-12 will be our 1952 Christmas Greens Show. Mrs. Anne Wertsner Wood will again have some of her novel decorations, for which she is so well-known. In addition to the regular classes of wreaths and swags, there will be a class for Christmas wrappings. The packages will contain inexpensive gifts which will be sent on to cheer hospital patients. Again there will be the ever-popular dining table decorations.

During the last two weeks of January, 1953, through the courtesy of J. Liddon Pennock, Jr., arrangements will be displayed featuring unusual basic plant material, suitable for the average house during the winter months. This should be of interest to those of us who struggle to keep at least one arrangement going through the cold and dreary part of winter.

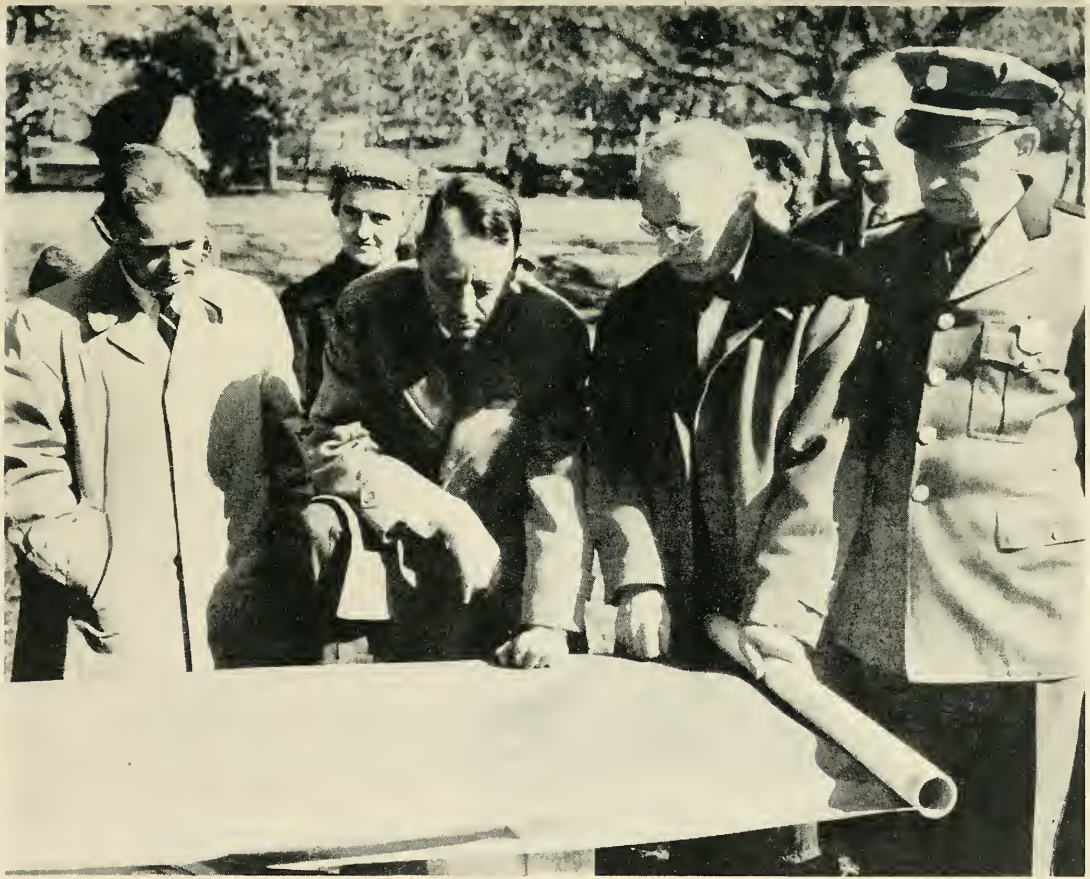
All through February, the work of four young sculptors, from the Pennsylvania Academy of The Fine Arts, will be shown in these rooms. An opening celebration to meet these young artists will be held on Wednesday afternoon, February fourth.

And now, we come to our radical plans for a change in the Narcissus Show. As I said before, it is a shame to have such a splendid Show not seen by more of the general public. So this year, under the enthusiastic and able leadership of Mrs. William Battles, plans have been made to hold the Show in the modern building of the Central-Penn National Bank at Broad and Walnut. The large glass windows will permit some of the Show to be seen by passersby on the street—we hope they will be lured in. The Bank plans to leave the lights on at night, so even after dark some of the exhibits will be in view. In this way we think we can interest more of the public in growing daffodils, and show them the large selection of varieties. The Wilmington Garden Club and the Gardeners Garden Club are co-sponsors of this year's show. The Horticultural Committee will have two classes for their project: one for the bulbs received and shown last year, and a class for the new bulbs received this fall.

Tentatively, plans are being considered for a Peony Show here in the Rooms about the first week in June, through the co-operation of Dr. J. F. Styer. I hope that all of you who grow peonies will bring them in to the Show and help us to start this new venture. Those of you who don't grow them "yet", please come to the Show and see the great strides that have been made in recently developed hybrids.

I cannot close this report without stressing the invaluable aid our Staff member, Miss May Phillips, has given us with these Room Displays. Without her ideas and tireless work, we could not produce the results.

MARGARETTA D. WOOD, *Chairman.*
(Mrs. Richard D. Wood, Jr.)



LOOKING OVER THE PLANS

For the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Azalea Garden in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, Pa.

## 125th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Your 125th Anniversary Committee takes pleasure in reporting that plans for the Society's anniversary have been consummated. After prolonged negotiation with the Fairmount Park Commission, permission was secured from the Commission for the planting of the triangular area between the East River Drive, the Italian Fountain, the Art Museum, and Boathouse Row. This space is to be filled with a large and varied collection of azalea and rhododendron. The plans have been drawn by Mr. Frederick W. G. Peck, and approved by this Committee and the Executive Council of the Society. By the time this report is read, a ground-breaking ceremony will have been held on October 21st, and the project presented to the City by the President of the Society and received by the Mayor and the Chairman of the Park Commission. Active planting work on the project has been delayed until early next Spring, because some rearrangement of the watering system and enlargement of the asphalt paths are required by Mr. Peck's plans.

Your Committee is happy to report that, as a result of the first request for funds sent out to the membership, a total of about $7439.00 was received. This was generously supplemented by the Philadelphia Flower Show, Inc., by an additional $1000.00. The second letter, which was sent out on October 3rd, resulted in an additional $2,194.50 for a grand total of $9,633.50. We have received generous promises of support in the form of plant material from quite a list of nurseries and arboretums in this part of the country, and are gratified with the interest that is being shown on their part.

As you know, we are observing the actual anniversary of our founding on Monday, November 24th, at the Franklin Institute at 6.00 for cocktails and 7.00 for dinner. We hope very much that you will all be there and can promise you an interesting and entertaining time.

I should like to take this opportunity, in the final report of this Committee, to thank each and every one of its members for a most intelligent and hard-working contribution to what we have done. Dr. Carson, of course, as an ex-officio member, has been a tower of strength.

RICHARD D. WOOD,
*Chairman.*

## THE 125th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

The Anniversary Dinner guests assembled in the lobby, outside the great Rotunda of the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. The weather had smiled on November 24th, 1952, so those who had accepted all came. The lobby was pleasantly full of chatting members. Mrs. Emile Geyelin, Chairman of the Dinner Committee, headed an informal receiving line which included the ladies of the Council and Mrs. Alan Reed of the Dinner Committee, who had made a generous gift towards the dinner. Many men as well as women members of the Society were among the guests.

As the party moved into the Rotunda, where the great statue of Benjamin Franklin looks down, a few remembered that it was in the old Franklin Institute on Seventh Street, in Philadelphia, that the Society

was formed one hundred and twenty-five years ago. The tables were effectively decorated with chrysanthemums and autumn leaves, the gift of Mr. J. Liddon Pennock, Jr., and arranged by members of the various Garden Clubs. Mr. Richard Wood, Jr., Chairman of the Anniversary Committee, and Dr. John B. Carson, President of the Society, sat in the middle of the long speakers' table in the front of the Rotunda. At the table were seated also Mrs. Geyelin, the speakers, Miss Root, and the recipients of the Awards. Nearly three hundred guests were seated at round tables throughout the room.

Mr. Wood welcomed the guests and presented Dr. Carson, who cordially thanked the Dinner Committee and all those who had participated in the arrangements. Dr. Carson's talk followed, describing some of the amusing episodes and often strange attitudes of the early Society, and following its fine development up to the present. (This talk is printed in the following pages.)

Mr. Fred Michell, of the Michell Seed Co., was then introduced. He graciously presented to the Society a gold medal for its achievement in the furthering of Horticulture.

The speaker of the evening was Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr., Professor of Botany and Vice-Provost of the University of Pennsylvania. As always, Dr. Fogg's talk was scintillating and briefly described the early botanists and horticulturists of this area. (The address appears at the end of this Year Book.)

After Dr. Fogg's speech, Dr. Carson presented the medals of the Society to Dr. Fogg, Mr. Harry Wood, Mrs. Charles Platt, and to Mr. W. Atlee Burpee, Jr., for the Philadelphia Flower Show. The citation for Dr. Fogg pointed out his distinction as teacher, lecturer, and administrator, and spoke of him as a sincere and loyal friend of the Society, which is fortunate in having him on its Council. Mr. Harry Wood was highly commended for his horticultural work, notably with narcissus, lilacs, peonies, and tree peonies, and for his outstanding success as a supervisor of the Arthur Hoyt Scott Foundation on the campus of Swarthmore College. Mrs. Platt, a member of the Society's Council, was noted for her excellent growing of clematis and roses, for her civic horticultural work, and for her beautiful flower paintings. The award to the Philadelphia Flower Show was received by Mr. Burpee, President of the Philadelphia Flower Show, Inc. The Show was accounted the best Annual Show in the country, and its organization praised for the fine results achieved.

At the close of the awards, Mr. Wood introduced Mrs. E. Page Allinson, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Council. Mrs. Allinson presented to Miss Fannie A. Root, for twenty-five years Executive Secretary of the Society, and now retiring, a watch and a check in token of the appreciation of the Council. (Mrs. Allinson's brief remarks are printed opposite the photograph of Miss Root.)

And so a delightful and memorable affair came to a close with renewed thanks from Dr. Carson to all of those who had participated.

MARY M-P. ALLINSON.
(Mrs. E. Page Allinson)

# DR. CARSON'S ADDRESS

## 125th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

### November 24, 1952

It is indeed a privilege and honor to greet you here tonight on this occasion. Actually, 125 years ago today, The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society was organized by 53 members who met in the Franklin Institute on 7th Street, Philadelphia. Mr. Horace Binney was elected President of the Society.

The first book published by the Society was its Constitution and Subscription Book, printed in 1827 by Clark & Rosen, 33 Carters Alley, Philadelphia. Part II of the Constitution states the objects of the Society as follows: "The objects of the Society shall be directed to the improvement of horticulture, as well ornamental as useful, to promote which object a garden shall be established as soon as the funds will admit."

When that was written John Quincy Adams was President of the United States. When the garden becomes a reality, Dwight D. Eisenhower will be President.

It sometimes takes a long while to accomplish a good result, whether this result is making a garden or electing a president. The annual dues were set at $5.00 and are still that.

Life Membership was fixed at $50.00 and continue at that figure until within the past few years when it was raised to $75.00.

It was also provided that Life Members should be of good moral character; and provision was made in 1829 to elect women to membership because "the presence of the gentler sex would improve the tone of the meetings". Paragraph XVII provided for the expulsion of any member "who defamed the Society or did anything to the dishonor thereof".

There actually was a member expelled July 18, 1848.

Provisions were made for prizes and for flower shows. The first large flower show of any consequence that was held in America was held in Masonic Hall on Chestnut Street, on June 6, 1829. At this show, among other exhibits, were "great varieties of magnolia, especially *M. macrophylla,* with its flowers four feet in circumference; Pelargoniums in diverse varieties, Peonies, Carnations, near 12 inches in circumference, double white Pomegranate, Strelitzia, Ruellia, Euphorbia, Sugar Cane, Sago Palm, Cream Nut Tree from Guinea, and Hottentot Bread and Testudinaria. Though thousands of persons visited it and remained more or less time in the Hall and the crowd was great in the evening, no one of the articles, not a stem, nor a floweret suffered the least injury from any hand or attrition. This circumstance is only one of a number of examples which we could cite of the spirit and habit of order which marked the population of Philadelphia."

Our Library Books in 1854 were housed in the Philadelphia Museum. On July 5th of that year the Museum was destroyed by fire but all of our books were removed. In the confusion, 18 volumes were lost, including Volumes 6 and 8 of Wilson's Ornithology and a Volume of Barton's Botany. The Franklin Fire Insurance Co. settled promptly at so much per volume. Mr. Caleb Cope and Gen. Robert Patterson, President, objected, saying that values of the sets were then destroyed. The Fire Insurance Company then requested delivery of the incomplete sets, should payment be required for the full amount.

The first meetings were marked by members bringing fruits and flowers for discussion and comment. Wine was also frequently brought and apparently carefully appraised.

At the meeting of May 4, 1829, with Mr. Horace Binney in the Chair, according to the minutes: "Two bottles of fine currant wine made on Port Reading Farm in 1825 and presented by Miss Humphreys through Mr. Henry Hollingsworth, was considered a very good wine, but a little overcharged with sugar. A vote of thanks was extended to Miss Humphreys".

For one hundred and twenty-five years the Society has continued its existence without interruption.

The 100th Anniversary Dinner was celebrated on November 28, 1927, in the Penn A. C., 18th and Locust Streets. About 100 people were present. Mr. Boyd was then President, and Mr. Frederick Stout acted as toastmaster. Great credit must be given to Mr. Boyd. He took over the Presidency when the financial condition of the Society was weak, and interest in the Society was at a low point. He inaugurated changes in practices, many of which are being continued. His successor was Mr. Frederick Stout, who was President for a period of 21 years. Mr. Stout gave a great deal of his time to the Society. Since 1928, Mr. John C. Wister has been Secretary of the Society. Mr. Wister is one of the most distinguished of our members in the horticultural world. His lectures, articles and books are known internationally. Besides innumerable magazine articles, he has written and edited books on Iris, Lilacs, Bulbs, and general gardening. Let me recommend the Woman's Home Companion Garden Book which he edited and to which he has contributed articles. This book, in which Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr., has an excellent section on botany, is one of the best books for the amateur gardener for simple, concise garden information. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wood, Miss Estelle Sharp, Mrs. Edward Cheston, Dr. Henry Skinner, are the other members of the Society who contributed articles to this book.

There are now and have been many distinguished persons in our Society membership. Time prevents mentioning them by name.

In our present membership we have a wonderful group of people. All have joined either because of their interest in horticulture or their love of gardening: professors, scientists, professional and amateur horti-

culturists, professional and amateur gardeners, plantsmen, nurserymen, landscape architects, research workers, owners of large estates, owners of small backyard gardens, and many people who are forced to live in a city room or apartment and have only a few potted plants to care for. The important thing is that all of these people love a garden and the outdoors. Today this is more and more manifest. The tremendous development of small homes in the country has created more and more home gardeners. We want these people to join The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. We can help them to learn how to garden the right way, to be successful and to get a lot of pleasure and recreation from their gardens.

The Society is very active. Lectures, flower shows and garden visits are all full of interest. The center aisle of the Philadelphia Flower Show next March will be done by this Society. Recently the Fall Chrysanthemum Show at Swarthmore was most successful. This year the Society is making its Azalea Garden in Fairmount Park. Thirteen hundred and fifty out of nearly 5500 members have made this possible, with individual contributions amounting to almost $10,000.00 . Garden Clubs, nurseries and arboretums have also contributed either financially or with plant material. It seems from the letters that have been received that many members have been wanting the Society to do something like this for a long time. Mr. Richard D. Wood, Jr., is a wonderful Chairman of this Anniversary Committee. His supervising and guiding hand direct a committee which it would be hard to equal. Each member of this Committee is doing all that he or she can to make the Anniversary project a success. To Mr. Wood and his Committee go the sincere thanks of the whole Society. Mrs. Winthrop Battles is to be thanked for her publicity.

The Society is greatly indebted to Mr. George R. Clark, who became Treasurer during the year. Mr. Clark, Vice-President of the Girard Trust Corn Exchange Bank, has given a great deal of his time to the financial management of the Society.

Now, little more remains to be said by me. We have a splendid organization made up of enthusiastic members. That the Society will continue for another 125 years there is no doubt.

May The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society continue to further the interests of horticulture, to aid in civic improvement and conservation and to bring pleasure, recreation and beauty into the lives of all who love a garden and the outdoors.

# ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ADDRESS

JOHN M. FOGG, JR.

In 1827, the year of the founding of The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, our republic was fifty-one years old. It had celebrated the passing of its half-century milepost the year before, on July 4th—a day which was saddened by the deaths of John Adams, its second president, and Thomas Jefferson, its third. It is worthy of note that Adams died in the belief that Jefferson, who had expired some hours before, still survived—a commentary on the slowness of communication at that time.

John Quincy Adams, crusty New Englander and son of our second President, was in the White House in 1827. He was deeply concerned with such problems as tariff protection, relations with the Indians, and a financially supported program of internal improvements, which included a national university and government sponsorship of agriculture and scientific exploration. His proposals were given scant consideration and his administration was characterized by frustration and bickering. The country, in short, was on the eve of Jacksonian Democracy.

In 1827, the population of the United States was approximately eleven million, only slightly more than that of Pennsylvania at the present time. Missouri and Louisiana were the only states west of the Mississippi—the rest of the country was either unorganized territories or the property of Mexico.

In 1827, a European-built steamship, the Curacao, crossed the ocean entirely under her own power—thus marking a new era in trans-Atlantic transportation—and in the same year the first plate of Audubon's monumental "Birds of America" was printed and colored—inaugurating a series that was to continue for eleven years and include 435 copper-plate engravings depicting 1,065 figures of birds, all hand-colored.

In 1827, Philadelphia boasted approximately 150,000 inhabitants and Penn's "Greene Country Towne" still lay largely between its two rivers. Indeed, forty-five years later, when the University of Pennsylvania moved to its present location in West Philadelphia, its trustees were criticized for transporting the institution to such a remote, rural area.

Philadelphia in 1827 still enjoyed its primacy as the intellectual and scientific center of the nation. The American Philosophical Society, founded here by Franklin in 1769, had enrolled among its members the most eminent scholars of the day. The Academy of Natural Sciences, initiated in 1812, was well embarked upon its distinguished career of research and publication, and the Franklin Institute, founded in 1824, was a pioneer in focussing attention on the importance of the physical sciences, both pure and applied. The libraries and educational resources of the city were unexcelled, and as a publishing center it occupied top rank in the union.

On such a stage, and in such a company, our Society made its debut on November 24, 1827. Its first meeting, as you know, was held in the headquarters of the Franklin Institute, not this palatial Hall where we meet tonight, but the more modest quarters at 7th and Market Streets.

The purpose of the Society, as stated in its charter, was (and still is) "to promote and encourage horticulture by improving the growth of vegetables, plants, trees, fruits and flowers, and introducing new varieties and species." In June 1829, when the infant Society was little more than eighteen months old, it held its first exhibition in Masonic Hall on Chestnut Street in Philadelphia. This is believed to be the first flower show of any size or consequence held in America.

It is worthy of note that at this show *Euphorbia pulcherrima* was exhibited for the first time. This plant had been presented to the Bartram Gardens by Dr. Joel Poinsett, of Greenville, S. C., first American Minister to Mexico. In 1827, plagued by a score of difficulties, Poinsett had asked to be recalled to Washington, but President Adams, preferring to have such a powerful friend of Andrew Jackson out of the country at election time, refused the request and the diplomat turned to his hobby, which was horticulture. He sent to the United States the seeds of a number of Mexican plants, such as oaks, nutmeg and cloves, as well as the brilliantly-bracted shrub which blooms at Christmas time and which is now called Poinsettia in memory of him. Thus did a political impasse confer a benefit upon horticulture. This was but the first of many novelties which have been introduced at the exhibitions of The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.

A brief review of the status of botany and horticulture in this era, both here and abroad, will provide a means of evaluating the relation of our Society to the world of plants into which it was launched.

By 1830 portions of the Orient had been explored by Kaempfer, Osbeck, Thunberg and von Siebold. Scores of Chinese and Japanese plants had been successfully introduced into European gardens and a few had found their way to America. These included Wisteria, Camellia, and several Chrysanthemums and Tree Peonies. The great days of Fortune, Schlippenbach, Bretschneider, Wilson, and Rock, however, still lay in the future, and our gardens of that day would have been found lacking in most of the now familiar species of Prunus, Spiraea, Viburnum, Forsythia and Rhododendron, etc., which we owe to the intrepid zeal of these later generations of explorers.

In England, John Lindley, often called the "Father of Horticulture", had just established his relationship with the Royal Horticultural Society and was on the verge of "reforming" the flower show. A few years later (1841) he became editor of the newly founded Gardeners' Chronicle, which he continued to edit until his death—one of the most useful of all periodicals to both botanists and horticulturists.

Incidentally, it was Lindley who was largely instrumental in resuscitating Kew Garden from the desuetude into which it had lapsed and launching it upon the brilliant period of service which it enjoyed under the directorship of the Hookers, father and son.

The microscope—that indispensable tool of the scientist—was still a somewhat primitive instrument in the 1820's, but already Robert Brown had recognized the nucleus of the plant cell, von Mohl was studying protoplasm, and Schleiden and Schwann were conducting observations which a few years later led to their historic announcement that all living things were composed of the same essential units—cells. In 1827 Adolph Brogniart published the first of an important series of papers on the formation of pollen grains, work which had an important bearing on our understanding of the nature and genesis of hybrids.

The Linnaean system of classification (whereby plants are arranged according to the numerical ratios of their stamens and carpels) was still almost exclusively followed in this country and abroad, although already A. P. de Candolle in France and Stephen Endlicher in Germany were at work upon the systems which were later to give us our more familiar and more natural sequence of the orders and families of plants.

And in England a young man named Charles Darwin was deciding not to be a clergyman, but instead to devote himself to the study of natural history, a decision which had a profound influence on the course of human thought. His embarkation on the epoch-making voyage of H.M.S. Beagle was only four years off.

On this side of the Atlantic, that love of plants which was deeply ingrained in the hearts of so many of the colonists had impelled them to explore the wilderness, to build gardens and to start recording the virtues of the plants of the New World. By 1827 the garden of John Bartram was nearly 100 years old, its founder having purchased a tract of five acres along the Schuylkill River in 1728, although the garden itself is usually believed to have been laid out and planted in 1731.

Bartram, the first truly American botanist and horticulturist, devoted nearly a half century to exploration of the country from the Great Lakes to Florida. During these years he sought tirelessly for plants for his garden and for his supporters abroad. Many of his finds had to be transported hundreds of miles in his saddle bags. Had he been the type of botanist who described every new plant which he discovered, Bartram's name today would be attached as author to scores of genera and many hundreds of species. But Bartram left the task of naming plants to others and contented himself with growing his treasures and dispatching them as seeds, bulbs and cuttings to Peter Collinson, Philip Miller, Linnaeus and others across the Atlantic. It is no exaggeration to state that this Philadelphia Quaker did more than any other single individual, before him or since, to make the floral wealth of the New World known to botanists and gardeners of the Old.

At least 150 plants included by Miller in his "Gardeners' Dictionary" must be accredited to Bartram, and countless others found their way into the gardens of England and Europe as a result of his discriminating collecting and horticultural skill.

Bartram's friendship with Washington, Jefferson, Franklin and Logan is a token of the respect with which he was regarded on this side of the Atlantic and is a further indication of the importance of Philadelphia as a scientific mecca.

The impetus which Bartram gave to the collecting and growing of plants had an important bearing upon the development of horticulture in and around Philadelphia, and by 1827 many fine gardens were to be found in this area. One of these in particular is deserving of special mention—the estate of William Hamilton, known as The Woodlands, and now the site of The Woodlands Cemetery in West Philadelphia. Here was to be seen a fine collection of plants, both native and exotic. And here were served the apprenticeship of two young gardeners who later made appreciable contributions to our knowledge of the American flora. The first was Frederick Pursh, the second Thomas Nuttall, and it is to the everlasting credit of Hamilton that he recognized their talents at an early age, encouraged them by providing employment on his estate, and later helped to finance their explorations.

Pursh's "Flora Americae Septentrionalis", published in 1814, and Nuttall's "Genera of North American Plants", which appeared in 1818, formed, together with Michaux's earlier "Flora" (1803) the standard reference works for our knowledge of the plants of this continent and continued to serve this function for many years. This, it may be noted, was long before the appearance of Gray's Manual or Bailey's Cyclopedia of Horticulture.

In 1826 there appeared the first of a series of local floras applicable to our area. This was the "Florula Cestrica" or "Little Flora of Chester County", written by Dr. William Darlington of West Chester. This delightful volume constituted a treasure house of useful information concerning the plants native to southeastern Pennsylvania and served to a model for many later works. Its author was aware of the ornamental as well as medicinal value of the species present in his area and copies of one or another of the various editions of his book might have been found on the shelves of many a flower-lover in this part of the country.

From this all-too-brief review of the intellectual and scientific progress which had been achieved by the time of the founding of this Society, it should be clear that the study of botany and horticulture was well advanced. This organization came into being at a time when there was a real need for its existence. It served then, as it has ever continued to serve, its stated purpose of promoting and encouraging horticulture, in the broadest sense of that term. From an original membership of 80,

it has grown to well over 5,000. Through its meetings, its publications, its lectures, its library and its exhibits it has stimulated for a century and a quarter an interest in growing plants. It has served as a medium for the exchange of information and has functioned as a channel of communication for new ideas concerning plants and gardens. As the exploration of remote areas continued and the vegetation of nearly all parts of the world became better known, our gardens were enriched with new species and varieties from all corners of the earth. From other portions of North America and from other continents, plant materials began to flow into our nurseries, parks, arboreta and gardens in a seemingly endless stream. Especially was this true in the case of southeastern Asia, which because of similarities in climate, has contributed so many hardy woody plants to eastern American horticulture. With all of this tremendous expansion in knowledge and materials, your Society has endeavored to keep pace by enlarging its collections of books and periodicals, increasing its services to its members, and sponsoring exhibitions of new and interesting varieties of plants.

Probably no city on the eastern seaboard is more richly endowed as a natural center for horticulture than is Philadelphia. Within its environs can be cultivated many species which are not hardy even a few miles further north. Because of its wide diversity of soil types, it is frequently possible within the confines of a single garden to grow "acid-loving" species almost side by side with those which require a calcareous medium. Few metropolitan areas can boast the multitude of parks and gards which for beauty, diversity and botanical interest make of the Philadelphia area a horticulturist's paradise. Although this city can no longer lay just claim to being the scientific hub of the country, none can dispute its eminence as a great horticultural center.

This means that The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society possesses an unusual opportunity for service to the community—an opportunity of which it is daily striving to take full advantage. It means that there is an obligation imposed upon all of us who claim membership in this organization to contribute in however small a way to the sum total of its effectiveness.

Within our ranks may be found a wide variety of individuals: landscape architects and professional gardeners, nurserymen and tree surgeons, professional botanists and amateur collectors, owners of large estates and young couples whose gardens are but "postage stamps", photographers, housewives and business men. But I like to think that the very backbone of our membership is the dirt gardener—the person who works his garden with his own hands, who plants his seeds, cultivates his ground, stakes his dahlias, and even pulls his own weeds! As long as such persons exist, and I for one am convinced that they will continue to exist in ever-increasing numbers, the soundness of our way of life is assured, and the sphere of usefulness of this Society is guaranteed.

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society is an old established organization, indeed *almost* a Philadelphia institution. It may well be pardoned for dwelling on its accomplishments, especially on an occasion like this. But now that we have looked backward over our shoulder at the past, let us direct our glance forward and acknowledge the task that lies ahead. That this Society shall continue to grow in size and in service, and shall ever strive to fulfill its stated purpose of promoting and encouraging horticulture is my most earnest wish on this, its one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary.